

PROJECT TYPES & DEFINITIONS

NOTE: FOR OUR PURPOSES IN THE BUDGET JUSTIFICATION, ALL RESEARCH WILL BE CONSIDERED TO BE APPLIED RESEARCH. IF YOU JUDGE A PROJECT TO BE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER OR A STUDY, ALSO INCLUDE IT UNDER RESEARCH.

Applied Research: systematic, critical, intensive investigations directed toward development of new or fuller scientific knowledge and understanding of the subject under investigation. A research project provides fundamental knowledge required for the solution of social, economic, biological, political, technical, or physical problems. Projects are focused to address specific “researchable” problems recognized by the Bureau. They usually have applicability beyond a particular place (site) and time and are usually directed at development of new methodologies and technologies. Applied Research is synonymous with research as generally used in the BLM

Basic Research: the theoretical/experimental research conducted to develop hypothesis/theories to acquire new knowledge on phenomena or observable facts without directly giving consideration to specific application/uses. The BLM does not normally fund, participate in or conduct basic research.

Development: the systematic process of identifying, adopting, and utilizing knowledge and understanding gained from research, directed toward the production of useful materials, devices, systems, or methods, including design and construction of prototypes and processes. The focus is toward developing and evaluating the feasibility and practicability of proposed implementation (or development) of a particular methodology into daily use, which is the process of technology transfer. One of the prime results of a development effort is proof of design concept; another is the development of application packages for service use by Field Offices.

Technology Transfer: includes, but is not limited to, information dissemination. Technology transfer is a process built into all research, development, and studies to ensure that new technologies are adopted into the accepted way of performing everyday functions or solving everyday problems. An example is an in-depth Manual explaining how a new technology is to be incorporated into existing procedures, techniques, and training.

Study: the collection and analysis of data to investigate natural resource interaction for solving or better understanding a specific management situation. Studies are usually site-specific and use existing methodologies and technologies. Results are usually not suitable for technology transfer outside the local Field Office area. Studies do not include projects of an operational nature, such as inventories, monitoring, or literature searches.